# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HOME AFFAIRS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1417
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2007
LANDSLIDES/SNOW AVALANCHES IN THE COUNTRY
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**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has made any study regarding natural calamities like landslides/ snow avalanches in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal as frequent blockage of National Highway creates problems in winter due to landslides/snow avalanches;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI)

(a) to (d): Yes, Geological Survey of India (GSI) carries out Landslide investigations in the states of the J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand as a part of its field season programme every year. Preliminary appraisal of 404 cases of Landslides in Uttarakhand, 351 in Himachal Pradesh and 86 in Jammu & Kashmir has been made for preparation of landslide inventory and database.

Site specific studies of landslides are also carried out along the important route corridors and around thickly populated landslide prone localities in the above mentioned three states during monsoon period every year. These studies are carried out either on request from the State Government or Road Maintaining Authorities. The main purpose of these studies is to establish the causative factors leading to the slope instability, dynamic behavior of the slides, damages caused or likely to be caused and to suggest appropriate corrective measures for stabilization of the landslides.

GSI has also carried out studies for snow avalanches for few site specific areas based on the request received from the local authorities.

The studies for avalanches have been carried out in Khardung La Area and Sind Basin in the State of Jammu & Kashmir, Dhauliganga, Mandakini Basin and Gangotri Yamunotri Area in the State of Uttarakhand.

Snow Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE), an agency of the Ministry of Defence carries out studies on snow and avalanche problems along two strategic highway connecting Leh, Manali and Srinagar. In conjunction with Indian Meteorological Department, National Centre for Medium Range and Weather Forecasting and the Army, SASE also carries out weather / avalanche forecasts.